

KATRINA RECOVERY: DAILY MESSAGE POINTS SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

AMERICAN RED CROSS

- ARC is managing **175 shelters** in Louisiana with a population of approximately **55,537 displaced citizens**
- To date, ARC has served more than **1 million meals** and **3 million snacks**
 - o Of which, **125,846 meals** were served in the last 24 hours
- More than **5,600 trained Red Cross workers** have left their homes to join thousands of local volunteers and assist in Katrina recovery efforts
- ARC is also coordinating a Family Registry Link to assist individuals in locating their friends and family
 - o Additional information available online at www.redcross.org
 - o Or call: **1-877-LOVED-1S** (1-877-568-3317)
 - o More than **44,000 individuals** have already registered

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

- There are currently **53,377** displaced citizens in 69 Louisiana shelters
 - o Another **681** citizens are housed in six special needs shelters
 - o About **78,923** Louisiana citizens are housed in **92** shelters in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Oklahoma, Texas, South Carolina, Utah and West Virginia.
- On Tuesday, DSS expanded emergency Food Stamp Benefits application processing to offices in all parishes except those directly affected by Katrina
 - o Applications are accepted from **6 a.m. to midnight** in all parishes except
 - o Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Washington and St. John. Offices are **NOT** operational
- DSS has processed **101,405** Disaster Food Stamp Benefits (from Sept. 2 thru Sept. 6)
 - o Applications will be accepted thru Sept. 9, 2005

*In order to ensure that there is a central source of shelter locations, DSS is requesting all shelter operators (other than those who are caring for individuals in their homes) to contact their Offices of Emergency Preparedness if they haven't already done so.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HOSPITALS

- Updated number of **fatalities** has been announced at **83**
 - o This number will be updated as often as possible when deaths are determined to be storm-related
- DHH has received a total of **1,700 responses from medical professional volunteers** from all over the country
 - o Approximately **800+ responses** from the website
 - o **900+** from telephone calls
- Med Job Louisiana is expanding their services to provide professional recruitment services to medical personnel who have been displaced
 - o Visit **www.medjoblouisiana.com** to learn more or complete an interview form
- The **status of public water systems** that have been affected by Hurricane Katrina is **being updated on a daily basis**
 - o Visit **www.dhhemergencynews.com** for more information

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

DOC/AG Temporary Holding and Detention Facility (Greyhound Detention Center)

- Totals as of Saturday, 9/4/2005 when Greyhound Facility became operational:
 - o Total Misdemeanors
4 males 0 females
 - Note: All were booked, charged and released
 - o Total State Felonies:
126 males 37 Females
 - Note: Most were transferred to other facilities; As of midnight 9/7/05, only 6 male inmates were still being held at the Temporary Holding & Detention Facility
 - o Total Federal Felonies
3 male
 - Note: Contact U.S. Attorney's Office for more details on those arrested on federal felony counts
- DOC continues to work with the Attorney General's Office and federal, state and local authorities on the detention and hearing process for these particular inmates. The Louisiana Attorney General's Office is coordinating those efforts.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

- **Water Sampling Results**
 - o **Preliminary water sampling results indicate** that the floodwater in the New Orleans area contains **high levels of bacteria**
 - o This was expected
 - o DEQ officials **have not seen any validated data** to support statements that the floodwater is a **“toxic soup”**
 - o **DEQ and EPA will continue to sample the water** inside and outside the New Orleans levees
 - o **DEQ and EPA** will also begin sampling the discharge of floodwaters pumped back into Lake Ponchartrain
- **Murphy Oil in Meraux**
 - o The facility is completely shut down
 - o There was a release of about **10-20,000 barrels of crude oil**
 - o The facility has **already begun cleanup**

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

- **Search and rescue operations continue in Greater New Orleans area**
 - o Estimated total persons rescued to date: 21,000
 - o Includes hospital evacuations, individuals, and small group rescues
- **Conditions within rescue areas**
 - o Water levels continue to recede in most rescue areas
 - o Making small boat rescue difficult in some areas where high ground is now limiting free access to all areas
 - o Small boat rescue teams are still encountering some residents who refuse to leave
- **Employee relocation support planning underway**
 - o LDWF administrative staff is planning to relocate departmental offices from parishes where regular business activities will not be possible in near future
 - o Dual planning effort underway would offer displaced employees the opportunity to work near their relocated office
- **Communication**
 - o Phone lines/numbers in LDWF offices affected by storms are being rerouted to other regional offices
 - o Mail is being re-routed to alternate departmental addresses to provide for continued agency correspondence

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- More than **70,000** Katrina-related **Unemployment Insurance** claims taken in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Georgia in the aftermath of Katrina
- About **\$20.7 million**, the first disbursement in a **\$62 million National Emergency Grant**, to be sent to several communities affected by hurricane. Total package should create **10,000 jobs**.

BOARD OF REGENTS

- **LCTCS is enrolling displaced students** at campuses not affected by Katrina
 - o Most campuses are starting "mini-mesters" or new class sections to accommodate displaced students
- Administrations of Nunez, Delgado and affected LTC campuses are operating in Baton Rouge
 - o Displaced Delgado **faculty pay checks ready for distribution**.
 - o LCTCS processed the more than **800 checks** for the displaced Delgado faculty and staff
 - o Checks are now available to be picked up at the LCTCS System office, from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Call (225) 922-1633 to provide mailing info
- Developing plans to provide employment training and adult learning opportunities at long-term evacuee housing locations through LCTCS and Dept. of Labor
- Hotline for student information available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily
 - o Call 1-866-415-2269
 - o Or go online to: www.regents.state.la.us

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- Superintendents of the hardest hit school districts now have a better idea of when they might reopen
- St. Bernard and possibly Orleans Parishes will likely be out of service for the entire school year
- Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Charles Parishes might be able to reopen in a matter of weeks or months
- Today superintendents of St. Tammany and the City of Bogalusa announced that they hope to reopen October 3rd
- DOE is working with state and federal leaders to resolve long-term funding issues that have arisen from students being in schools across the state and nation
 - o FEMA and the U.S. Department of Education have assured Superintendent Picard that these issues will be resolved.
- DOE has sent critical student data to operational school districts across the state and will be sending that same information to states across the country today

- These databases include basic statistics including demographics, enrollment, discipline, high school transcripts and class schedule information for public school students
- Affected parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Tammany and the City of Bogaloussa
- Superintendent Picard hopes to have hard numbers about where students have come from and where they are enrolling by the end of the week or early next week
- Updated information about St. Tammany Parish and the City of Bogaloussa was posted at www.louisianaschools.net today
 - Info includes teacher pay, the condition of schools, the date of a planning meeting and the target date for the systems to be back in business
- DOE Call Center has answered approximately 900 calls from concerned parents and teachers today
- The expanded hours of the Call Center will continue from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Office of State Uniform Payroll (OSUP)

- Electronic Payroll was transmitted on Wednesday, 8/31/05
- Payroll was scheduled to be posted in employee accounts Friday, 9/2/05
- Some Financial institutions, because of Katrina, may not be able to complete transactions.
- OSUP will work out a solution for paying employees affected.

Payroll checks were mailed Friday 9/2/05. Payroll checks addressed to zip codes that are undeliverable (365,366,369,393,394,395,396,700,701,703 and 704).

- Released to agencies for distribution

Office of Information Technology (OIT)

- Deployed the Call Center in support of the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation

Office of Planning and Budget

- Contacted New York and Florida to gather info on Budget and Revenue impacts caused by 9/11 WTC disaster in NY and recent Hurricanes in Florida